

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENOA 00585 221429Z

14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 BIB-01 /074 W

----- 009075

R 221245Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL GENOA

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

SECSTATE WASHDC 1785

INFO AMCONSUL MILAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENOA 0585

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IT, PINT

SUBJ: A CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT AT THE HEAD OF THE LIGURIAN REGIONAL
COUNCIL?

1. THE LOCAL PRESS CONTINUES TO REPORT THAT THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS
(DC) AND THE COMMUNISTS (PCI) ARE NEGOTIATING A DEAL WHICH WOULD SEE
DC REGIONAL GROUP LEADER FAUSTO CUOCOLO REPLACE SOCIALIST ANGELO
LANDI AS PRESIDENT OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL. AS A QUID-PRO-QUO, THE
DC WOULD AGREE TO LEND ITS SUPPORT TO THE "PROGRAM" OF THE COMMUNIST
LED LEFTIST REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION (GIUNTA). THUS FAR, NEITHER
CUOCOLO NOR THE PCI HAS ISSUED THE SORT OF SHERMAN-LIKE DECLARATION
WHICH MIGHT PUT AN END TO THE ONGOING PRESS SPECULATION.

2. IN A LENGTHY CONVERSATION WITH THE CONSUL GENERAL ON SEPTEMBER

PAGE 2 RUFLAAA0671 C O N F I D E N T I A L GENOA 0585

17, CUOCOLO REFUSED TO BE DRAWN INTO A CANDID DISCUSSION OF HIS
AVAILABILITY FOR THE POSITION, BUT HINTED BROADLY THAT IT MIGHT NOT
BE A BAD IDEA TO KEEP THE SOCIALISTS GUESSING ABOUT DC INTENTIONS.
ACCORDING TO CUOCOLO, THE LEFTIST GIUNTA HAD FAILED TO MAKE GOOD
ON THE PROMISE OF "CLEAN AND EFFICIENT RULE" WITH WHICH IT CAME
TO POWER A YEAR AGO. IN SUPPORT OF HIS ARGUMENT, HE CITED THE ARREST
OF FORMER SOCIALIST REGIONAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT PAOLO MACHIAVELLI ON
CHARGES OF CORRUPTION AND ALSO OF ANY "INNOVATIVE INITIATIVE"

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENOA 00585 221429Z

ON THE PART OF THE GIUNTA. CUOCOLO BELIEVES THAT THE LIGURIAN VOTERS

ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY DISABUSED ABOUT THE VAUNTED CLEANLINESS AND EFFICIENCY OF THE COMMUNISTS. HE ATTRIBUTES THE EXCELLENT RECOVERY

OF HIS PARTY IN THE JUNE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS TO THIS GROWING ELECTORAL DISENCHANTMENT WITH THE LEFT. HE ARGUES THAT IT MAY BE SALUTARY TO LET THE IMPOTENCE OF THE LEFTIST GIUNTA SINK A LITTLE LONGER INTO THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE VOTERS; THEREFORE HE IS IN NO PARTICULAR HURRY TO SEE THE GIUNTA FALL.

3. FROM ALL INDICATIONS, THE SOCIALISTS ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY RESTIVE OVER WHAT THEY REGARD AS COMMUNIST DEPLICITY AND OVERBEARANCE,.

ACCORDINGLY, THEY ISSUE FREQUENT CALLS FOR A "VERIFICATION" OF THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PCI AND MAKE EVEN MORE FREQUENT--IF UNCONVINCING

--THREATS TO RESUME THEIR "AUTONOMY" VIS-A-VIS THE PCI AND THE DC.

PAGE 4 RUFLAAA0671 C O N F I D E N T I A L GENOA 0585

PREDICTABLY, SOCIALIST BLEATINGS AND BICKERINGS EXACERBATE THE ALREADY

STRAINED RELATIONS WITH BOTH THE PCI AND THE DC AND FURTHER ISOLATE THE PSI FROM THE OTHER POLITICAL FORCES. (IT WOULD APPEAR, FROM OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH LOCAL POLITICOS AND INFLUENTIAL BUSINESS AND CULTURAL LEADERS, THAT THE ONLY FRIENDS THE SOCIALISTS HAVE LEFT ARE THE DISINTEGRATING SOCIAL DEMOCRATS).

4. BARRING THE OUSTER OF LANDI, WE DOUBT THAT, IN THE SHORT RUN, SOCIALIST DIFFIDENCE OF THE COMMUNISTS WILL RESULT IN A CRISIS IN THE REGIONAL GIUNTA, OR THAT, IF IT DID, IT WOULD NECESSARILY USHER IN A SUCCESSOR GOVERNMENT WHICH WOULD EXCLUDE THE COMMUNISTS. ON PAPER, AT LEAST, A CENTER-LEFT MAJORITY WOULD STILL BE POSSIBLE IN LIGURIA, BUT THE SOCIALISTS ARE TOO DIVIDED AND NOT SUFFICIENTLY PRAGMATIC TO SWITCH PARTNERS, PREFERRING TO SUFFER COMMUNIST HEAVYHANDEDNESS RATHER THAN TO SHED THE SELF-MADE MANACLES WHICH PREVENT THEIR RAPPROCHEMENT WITH THE DC. NEVERTHELESS, THE SITUATION HERE IS RIPE FOR CHANGE, PROVIDED THE LOCAL SOCIALIST AND DC CHIEFS GET SOME ENCOURAGEMENT AND/OR PRODDING FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP.

DISCIULLO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENOA00585
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760359-0044
From: GENOA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760933/aaaabchg.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <31 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: A CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT AT THE HEAD OF THE LIGURIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL?
TAGS: PINT, IT, (CUOCOLO, FAUSTO)
To: ROME STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006